

Message Text

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ACTION VO-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 SCCT-01 IO-10 L-02 SY-04 CIAE-00

FBIE-00 INSE-00 NSAE-00 JUSE-00 USSS-00 SCA-01 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-07 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AF-04 EUR-12 SAB-01 SAM-01 NIC-01 /089 W

----- 043206

R 270616Z DEC 74

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6407

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY SANAA

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 2187

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CVIS, PFOR, XF

SUBJ: VISA INELIGIBILITY: PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION

REF: STATE 272384; AMMAN 7596; BEIRUT 15287

1. SOME OF PROBLEMS RAISED BY EMBASSIES AMMAN AND BEIRUT IN
CONNECTION WITH INS DETERMINATION REPORTED IN STATE 272384
HAVE ALSO OCCURED TO US. PALESTINIANS UNDER ISRAELI OCCUP-
TION OBVIOUSLY NOT LIKELY OPENLY TO ACKNOWLEDGE MEMBERSHIP
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IN PLO OR CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS (AS OPPOSED TO GENERAL

SYMPATHY WITH THEIR ADVOCACY OF PALESTINIAN CAUSE.) GOI PROHIBITS ALL POLITICAL ACTIVITY ON WEST BANK, INCLUDING MEMBERSHIP IN SUCH ORGANIZATIONS, AND MEMBERSHIP IN "ILLEGAL ORGANIZATION" IS COMMON ISRAELI CHARGE. WE ASSUME ANY ACTIVE MEMBERS OF PLO AFFILIATES WHO MAY BE PRESENT ON WEST BANK ARE PROBABLY HERE PURPOSELY TO WORK IN AREA AND WOULD NOT BE TRYING TO GO TO US IN ANY EVENT. IMPACT OF DETERMINATION ON VISA ISSUANCE AT THIS POST NOT LIKELY, THEREFORE, TO INVOLVE SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS. WE ARE NEVERTHELESS STRUCK BY SWEEPING NATURE OF INS DECISION AND, MOST IMPORTANTLY, BY POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS.

2. VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS COVERED BY INS DETERMINATION OR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF SUCH ORGANIZATIONS HAVE CARRIED OUT TERRORIST ACTIONS, INCLUDING MAJOR ONES SPECIFICALLY AIMED AT AMERICANS, FROM TIME TO TIME OVER PERIOD OF SOME YEARS. DURING THIS PERIOD IT WAS NOT APPARENTLY CONSIDERED NECESSARY FOR PROTECTION OF US TO MOVE IN THIS WAY AGAINST PLO AND AFFILIATES. IT APPEARS TO US ANOMALOUS THAT USG SHOULD DECIDE TO TAKE THIS STEP AT THIS PRECISE MOMENT, JUST WHEN PLO IS GAINING CERTAIN INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION AND STANDING ANY MAY BE EMERGIN AS MORE RESPECTABLE POLITICAL ORGANIZATION THAT IS PREPARED TO RENOUNCE TERRORISM AT LEAST AS INTERNATIONAL WEAPON AND SUPPORT NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF ARAB-ISRAELI DISPUTE. FUTURE US ATTITUDE TOWARD PLO, WHATEVER IT MAY BE, SHOULD BE DETERMINED BY THESE LARGER POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS. HOSTILITY EVIDENCED BY INS DETERMINATION WOULD NOT SEEM DESIGNED TO PROMOTE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT IN POSITIVE DIRECTION AND COULD EVEN WORK AT CROSS PURPOSES TO OUR BASIC POLICY OBJECTIVES IN AREA.

3. WE THEREFORE SUPPORT AMMAN AND BEIRUT REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF INS DETERMINATION. IF REVIEW LEADS TO AFFIRMATION OF EARLIER DECISION, WE WOULD APPRECIATE FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT BASIS FOR FINDING OF SUCH BROAD SCOPE.

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